



Leicester, Feb. 20. 1853.

Dear Miss Weston,

It behoves me to write you, at least a few lines, touching several matters. I meant to have done so, long since.

When the Box to Eng^d. will go, I cannot even yet say; - I hope by the 5th of March. It waits only for the Annual Report, and the copies (extra) of Mr. Phillips's Speech, criticizing the 'London Leader', &c. &c. Said Speech will be published with the Report; and we propose to have 1000 extra copies, in cheap form. Will 1000 be enough? Is it not remarkably well adapted, just now, to English Circulation? We cannot possibly have the Report much before the 1st of March - 9 days hence. Then I hope everything else will be ready, & the box got off at once - or as soon as the packet goes, - which, I think, is the 5th. - I hope your most thorough enjoyment of your week's reading is near at hand.

Then your question as to J. J. Locke. The Board voted to employ him, at a regular meeting, must be my first answer; - on condition, however, of the slenderest encouragement, ^{to him personally}. The Society is responsible for nothing beyond ^{his} travelling exp^s. - all his salary he is to raise.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 27. 16

But more specifically - he is, in many respects, a ~~very~~ useful lecturer, & an improving one. He earnestly sought, by application to W.L.G., to go again into the field, as our Agent, on almost any terms. Mr. G. favoured his employ^t, on the above terms, - Again, a considerable share of the money paid to Grover was raised by himself. What I have seen of ~~Mr~~ Grover I have liked. He is industrious, persevering, deeply-interested, and of good common sense, - so far as I have seen, & can judge. But he would not be employed now, when our treasury is low, & more able & experienced men are at hand. ^{He has not been employed since last spring or early summer.} - However, you will recollect that what the Board does, I cannot undo. - I presume every one of our Agents (excepting ~~only~~ only Miss Holly, who has not been long in the States) prejudices some, or a certain class, against the cause & the Society. I do not think it would be best for us to have all our lecturers like Thos. T. Stone, or T. W. Higginson, or even Saml. Johnson, - allowing me could have ~~these~~ all, as we cannot have any.

I heard, indirectly, the other day that some of the Leominster people felt badly that their contributions to the Bazaar had no mention made of them. I have not re-read the Report, to see if it be so.

But I was writing to Mr. Drake, about Miss Holley, and I alluded to what I had heard, & said I knew it was a wholly accidental omission, & instance^d your also omitting to name the Paris box, in the list. She alluded to the matter in her reply; and I think I will send you her remarks. As I do so, I must do myself the justice to say that I am amazed you remember so much in your report, - and that what you omit is rarely ^{if ever} of a really serious nature. Perhaps you will conclude to send a note to 'Standard' & 'Liberator', supplying the omission of the Paris box, & the contribution from Leominster. If you do, will you please ^{mention too} ~~add just notice~~ a small contribution from this town (Leicester) - from Mr. Rockwood. It was only a rug, which brought \$2.50. But it rejoiced her 'old man's' heart, - and she spent many an hour over it. I have not heard a word from them, or any one, on the subject. If it was referred to, in the Report, I overlooked it. All the notice that could have been expected was the simple mention of the donor's name. - You need not return (but please destroy) Mr. Drake's letter.

I have a very full, specific letter from Mr. Estlin. I think you would enjoy it greatly; and I mean soon to send it to you, and shall be glad to know, when you return it, what you think of his views about the B. & F. A. S. Reporter, & its new Editor, &c. &c. He is deeply interested in the 'Advocate'. It is a nice little paper. I hope you get your number of it.

In addition to the other beauties of the letter, it contained a banking note for \$£30. sterling - donations as follows: To Capt. Drayton, £5. - To Liberator £10. - To Standard, pa. Freeman, & Ohio Bugle [Mr. A. S. Bygle] £5. each.

I have also had a brief business note from R. D. Webb. In a note, at the end, he says: "Will you ask Miss Weston to tell you, for my information, how many vols. 1. 2. 3. 4 of Bancroft's United States, the English edition, she wished sent to somebody, and to whom. She merely gave me a verbal message, and it has escaped my treacherous memory." - If you are writing to Mr. Webb, by the box, please ^{ans^r} this question also. If not, I will do it gladly. I do not expect to write to him ^{myself} until then.

I hope to hear a favourable report of Lucia's health soon. Please offer to her my sincere sympathy & regard. My respects, too, to all the other members of your household. - Mr. May is in Boston now, and I am 'keeping guard'.

With sincere esteem,

Truly yours

Saml May Jr